

Message Text

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ACTION FS-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 ABF-01 PER-01

L-03 SY-05 /034 W

-----251552Z 109357 /43

R 251156Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7651

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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ABIDJAN FOR RSO; PARIS FOR RFC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFIN, ASEC, AFSP

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SHORTAGES IN CASHIER ACCOUNTS

REF: ACCRA 3025 (NOTAL)

1. ON MORNING 23 APR 77 ADMINOFF RECEIVED CALL FROM GHANAIAAN WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS K. NYAKYE OF THE GHANA TEXTILE CORP. CALLER STATED ALTERNATE CLASS B CASHIER BENJAMIN AGYARKO WAS USING OFFICIAL FUNDS TO ENGAGE IN PRIVATE BUSINESS. WHEN PRESSED ON HOW CALLER CAME BY THIS INFO HE WOULD ONLY REVEAL THAT MR. AGYARKO WAS USING MONEY FOR TRADING AND REFUSED TO GIVE ANY OTHER DATA.

2. ADMINOFF (PSO) INFORMED RBFO AND DPSO AND SENT FOR MR. AGYARKO. AS LATTER WAS OUT OF ACCRA HE WAS ONLY LOCATED AT 1700 AT WHICH TIME PSO ASKED HIM TO COME TO OFFICE AND OPEN HIS SAFE. A SPOT VERIFICATION OF MR. AGYARKO'S CEDI SIX THOUSAND ADVANCE FROM PRINCIPAL CLASS B CASHIER, BERNARD ABOTSI, REFLECTED A SHORTAGE OF CEDIS 5500 (VERIFIED BY RFBO) WHICH MR. AGYARKO CLAIMED HE HAD

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RETURNED TO MR. ABOTSI IN EARLY APRIL. WHEN LATTER CALLED IN HE DENIED RECEIVING CEDIS 5500 CLAIMING AMOUNT WAS ONLY CEDIS 1000. MR. ABOTSI, IN THE PRESENCE OF MR. AGYARKO, THE PSO, D/PSO, AND RBFO, PRODUCED HIS RECEIPTS FOR ADVANCES TO OTHER CASHIERS WHICH REFLECTED, AMONG OTHERS, THREE RECEIPTS

- A. ONE DATED 11 JAN 77 FOR CEDIS 6000 RECEIVED
AND SIGNED FOR BY BENJAMIN AGYARKO;
- B. ONE DATED 7 APR 77 FOR CEDIS 1000 RECEIVED FROM
MR. AGYARKO AND SIGNED FOR BY MR. ABOTSI;
- C. ONE DATED 18 APR 77 FOR CEDIS 400 RECEIVED FROM
MR. AGYARKO AND SIGNED FOR BY MR. ABOTSI.

MR. AGYARKO HAD COPY OF RECEIPT A FOR CEDIS 6000 BUT DID NOT HAVE COPIES OF RECEIPT B & C. ADDITIONALLY MR. ABOTSI CLAIMED HE HAD RETURNED THE CEDIS 400 TO MR. AGYARKO AND THE RECEIPT IN HIS POSSESSION WAS TO BE DESTROYED. (THIS WOULD EXPLAIN MR. ABOTSI'S POSSESSION OF THE RECEIPT IF HE HAD RETURNED THE MONEY, HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT EXPLAIN HIS POSSESSION OF THE UNIQUE COPY OF THE RECEIPT FOR CEDIS 1000 SINCE HE HAD NOT RE-FUNDED IT TO HIS ALTERNATE.)

3. BOTH CASHIERS MAINTAINED THAT THE OTHER WAS LYING. BOTH CONFIRMED THAT EACH HAD SOLE POSSESSION OF THE COMBINATION OF THE SAFE ASSIGNED TO HIM AND THAT EACH HAD INDIVIDUALLY SET THE COMBINATION OF THE SAFE UNDER SUPERVISION OF THE NCOIC IN MARCH, 1977.

4. ADMINOFF INSTRUCTED RBFO IMMEDIATELY TO CONDUCT CASH AUDIT OF PRINCIPAL CASHIER'S ACCOUNTS TO DETERMINE WHOSE STORY CORRECT. TRIAL BALANCE OF PRINCIPAL CASHIERS'S ACCOUNTS (INCLUDING RECEIPTS FOR NET ADVANCE OF CEDIS 5000 TO ALTERNATE CASHIER) REFLECTED SHORTAGE OF CEDIS 500.03 IMI 500.03. AS IT WAS ALMOST MIDNIGHT ADMINOFF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORDERED ALL RECORDS AND CURRENCY BE SECURED, KEY TO CASHIER'S CAGE (WHICH IS IN ADDITION TO COMBINATION PADLOCKS) BE RETAINED BY MSG ON DUTY AT ANNEX (24 HOUR COVERAGE), INSTRUCTED MSG TO RELEASE KEY ONLY TO ADMINOFF OR RBFO PRIOR TO MONDAY, 25 APR 77; (LATTER TWO OFFICERS DO NOT KNOW SAFE OR DOOR COMBINATIONS) AND ADVISED TWO FSLE'S RETURN TO WORK ON MONDAY.

5. AT OPENING OF BUSINESS TODAY, 25 APR 77, ADMINOFF GAVE INDIVIDUAL LETTERS TO MSSRS. AGYARKO AND ABOTSI STATING THEY WERE RELIEVED OF ALL DUTIES TEMPORARILY EXCEPT TO ASSIST THE RFBO IN A DETAILED AUDIT OF THEIR ACCOUNTS AND PREPARE STATEMENTS GIVING THEIR EXPLANATIONS OF THE DISCREPANCIES UNCOVERED. LETTERS STATED THEIR STATUS WOULD BE DETERMINED WHEN ADMINOFF RECEIVED FINAL RESULTS OF CASH COUNT AND HAD REVIEWED THEIR STATEMENTS. WHEN THESE TWO ACTIONS COMPLETED WILL SUSPEND BOTH EMPLOYEES PENDING FINAL DECISION IF SHORTAGES NOT RPT NOT SATISFACTORILY EXPLAINED.

6. ALTERNATE CASHIER HOLDS ADVANCE AGAINST POSSIBLE CONTINGENCY THAT PRINCIPAL CASHIER UNAVAILABLE DUE TO ILLNESS OR ABSENCE FROM OFFICE WHILE AT BANK, ETC. LAST VERIFICATION OF PRINCIPAL CASHIER'S ACCOUNT WAS 19 APR 77; NO RECORD OF VERIFICATION OF ADVANCE TO ALTERNATE CAHSIER BY PRINCIPAL.

7. ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE NYAKYE TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS OF ALLEGED MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS. WILL ADVISE RESULTS INVESTIGATION WHEN AVAILABLE.
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Sent Date: 25-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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